



## **Texas Department of Insurance**

### **Division of Workers' Compensation**

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48

7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1645

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## **MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Requestor Name**

LCS Surgical Affiliates

**Respondent Name**

Ace American Insurance Co

**MFDR Tracking Number**

M4-14-0421-01

**Carrier's Austin Representative**

Box Number 15

**MFDR Date Received**

October 3, 2013

### **REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY**

**Requestor's Position Summary:** No position statement submitted

**Amount in Dispute:** \$4,862.00

### **RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY**

**Respondent's Position Summary:** No position statement submitted

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

| Dates of Service | Disputed Services | Amount In Dispute | Amount Due |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| February 7, 2012 | 62318, 77003      | \$4,862.00        | \$0.00     |

### **FINDINGS AND DECISION**

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

**Background**

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
  - 12 (125) Submission/billing error(s)

**Issue**

1. Did the requestor waive the right to medical fee dispute resolution?

**Findings**

1. The Division placed a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution request in the insurance carrier's Austin representative box, which was acknowledged received on October 11, 2013. The insurance carrier did not submit a response for consideration in this review. Per the Division's former rule at 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(d)(1), effective May 25, 2008, 33 *Texas Register* 3954, "If the Division does not receive the response information within 14 calendar days of the dispute notification, then the Division may base its

decision on the available information." Accordingly, this decision is based on the available information.

2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(c)(1) states: "Timeliness. A requestor shall timely file the request with the division's MFDR Section or waive the right to MFDR. The division shall deem a request to be filed on the date the MFDR Section receives the request. A decision by the MFDR Section that a request was not timely filed is not a dismissal and may be appealed pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. (A) A request for MFDR that does not involve issues identified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall be filed no later than one year after the date(s) of service in dispute." The date of the services in dispute is February 7, 2012. The request for medical dispute resolution was received in the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MFDR) section on October 3, 2013. This date is later than one year after the date(s) of service in dispute. Review of the submitted documentation finds that the disputed services do not involve issues identified in §133.307, subparagraph (B). The Division concludes that the requestor has failed to timely file this dispute with the Division's MFDR Section; consequently, the requestor has waived the right to medical fee dispute resolution.

### **Conclusion**

The Division finds that the requestor has waived the right to medical fee dispute resolution for the services in dispute. For that reason, the merits of the issues raised by the parties to this dispute have not been addressed.

### ***ORDER***

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the services in dispute.

### **Authorized Signature**

|           |  |               |
|-----------|--|---------------|
| _____     | _____                                  | July 29, 2014 |
| Signature | Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer | Date          |

### ***YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL***

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, 37 *Texas Register* 3833, **applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.**

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

**Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.**